

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 QUITO 03587 231957Z

12

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 IO-10

JUSE-00 NSAE-00 SNM-02 SY-05 TRSE-00 USIA-06 NSC-05

OES-03 OMB-01 L-02 DODE-00 /057 W

----- 041887

R 231802Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY QUITO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5668

INFO AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMCONSUL GUAYAQUIL

C O N F I D E N T I A L QUITO 3587

CARACAS FOR DEA

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SNAR, EC, BEXP

SUBJ: SIGNING OF POLICE PROJECT AGREEMENT

REF: A. STATE 99241; B. QUITO 2811

1. SUMMARY: POLICE PROJECT AGREEMENT WAS SIGNED MAY 15 BETWEEN USAID DIRECTOR AND MINISTER OF GOVT. IN ADDITION TO EXPRESSING APPRECIATION FOR USG ASSISTANCE, MINGOV RECALLED THAT HE HAD RAISED PROVISION OF HELICOPTERS TO GOE PROGRAM IN MEETING WITH AMBASSADOR ON AUG 15, 1974, AND ASKED THAT WE LOOK INTO WHAT TYPES AND ON WHAT TERMS HELICOPTERS MIGHT BE PROVIDED FOR ECUADOREAN ANTI-NARCOTICS EFFORT. ATMOSPHERE OF SIGNING CEREMONY WAS RATHER SUBDUED, DUE UNDOUBTEDLY IN PART TO LINGERING EFFECT OF NICHOLAS GAGE SERIES ON DRUG TRAFFIC IN LA IN WHICH MINGOV WAS MENTIONED UNFAVORABLY. END SUMMARY.

2. NEW POLICE PROJECT AGREEMENT WAS SIGNED MAY 15 BETWEEN USAID DIRECTOR AND MINGOV ADMIRAL POVEDA. TONE OF CEREMONY APPEARED SOMEWHAT SUBDUED, PROBABLY BECAUSE OF LINGERING GOE RESENTMENT OVER NICHOLAS GAGE SERIES ON DRUG TRADE IN LA IN WHICH POVEDA
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 QUITO 03587 231957Z

ACCUSED OF HAVING ORDERED CHARGES DROPPED AGAINST A DRUG

TRAFFICKER LAST DEC. (SEE QUITO 2811.) AND, CONSPICUOUS BY HIS ABSENCE FROM CEREMONY WAS ECUADOREN NARCOTICS POLICE CHIEF COL UNNEZ WHOSE DIRECT QUOTES IN GAGE STORY HAVE ALSO CAUSED HIM SUBSTANTIAL EMBARRASSMENT.

3. POVEDA WAS NONETHELESS CORDIAL AT SESSION AND THANKED US FOR USG ASSISTANCE. HE EXPRESSED BELIEF THAT WITH RECENT POLICE REORGANIZATION GOE NARCOTICS EFFORT WOULD SEE EVEN GREATER IMPROVEMENTS. POVEDA RECALLED THAT HE HAD ONCE RAISED QUESTION OF PROVISION OF HELICOPTERS FOR GOE ANTI-NARCOTICS EFFORT WITH AMBASSADOR (SEE QUITO 5413 OF AUG 15, 1974) AND TO DATE HAD NOT HEARD OUR REPLY. HE ASKED THAT WE LOOK INTO WHAT TYPES AND ON WHAT TERMS HELICOPTERS MIGHT BE PROVIDED TO HIS MINISTRY.

4. COMMENT: POVEDA AND HIS SUBORDINATES HAVE MENTIONED DESIRE TO ACQUIRE HELICOPTERS ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS IN THE PAST COUPLE OF YEARS BUT NEVER IN A FORMAL REQUEST. IN ADDITION WHEN POVEDA RAISED SUBJECT WITH AMBASSADOR IN 1974, HE WAS TALKING ABOUT GOE PURCHASE, WHEREAS GOE NOW SEEMS TO BE LOOKING FOR SOMETHING ON A GRANT (OR PARTIAL GRANT) BASIS.

5. IN OUR CONVERSATIONS WITH LOWER GOE OFFICIALS WE HAVE SOUGHT TO DISCOURAGE HELICOPTER TALK BECAUSE OF HIGH COSTS INVOLVED AND DEBATABLE EFFECTIVENESS IN NARCOTICS WORK. IT SEEMS THAT NOW, HOWEVER, GOE WISHES TO PRESS THE POINT TO WHERE A MORE CONCRETE REPLY ON OUR PART IS REQUIRED AND IS PERHAPS EVEN POLITICALLY DESIRABLE IN TERMS OF ENHANCING GOE GOODWILL. WE BELIEVE THERE IS MERIT IN CONSIDERING GOE REQUEST. SPECIFICALLY, WE UNDERSTAND THAT TECHNICAL EXPERTISE EXISTS WITHIN AID TO SEND A TECHNICIAN HERE WHO COULD SURVEY SITUATION AND MAKE APPROPRIATE RECOMMENDATIONS TO OURSELVES AND GOE. WITHOUT PREJUDGING OUTCOME OF SUCH A SURVEY, IF RECOMMENDATION WERE THAT GOE ACQUIRE ONE OR TWO HELICOPTERS FOR NARCOTICS ENFORCEMENT PURPOSES, THEN WE COULD PERHAPS CONSIDER PARTIAL FUNDING ON GRANT BASIS. IN CONSIDERING POSSIBLE MERITS OF GRANT FUNDING, WE SHOULD NOT, HOWEVER, OVERLOOK POSSIBILITY THAT AN INITIAL GRANT MAY LEAD TO SUBSEQUENT CASH SALES IN VIEW OF SUBSTANTIALLY INCREASED FUNDS AT DISPOSITION OF MINGOV. ON THE OTHER HAND, WE DO NOT WISH TO RAISE FURTHER GOE EXPECTATIONS IF PARTIAL FUNDING OF PROCUREMENT OF HELICOPTERS IS NOT WITHIN PARAMETERS OF WASHINGTON POLICY OR FUNDING

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 QUITO 03587 231957Z

AVAILABILITIES.

6. ACTION REQUESTED: WE WOULD APPRECIATE KNOWING FROM DEPARTMENT WHETHER (A) POLICIES OF THE NARCOTICS CONTROL PROGRAM INCLUDE PROCUREMENT OF HELICOPTERS UNDER APPROPRIATE CIRCUMSTANCES. (B) FUNDING AVAILABILITIES EXIST FOR SUCH PROCUREMENT. (C) HELICOPTERS HAVE BEEN PREVIOUSLY PROVIDED UNDER THE PROGRAM AND IF SO, WHAT EXPERIENCES, POSITIVE AND NEGATIVE, OF EFFECT-

IVENESS.

(D) IF ANSWER TO ABOVE ARE POSITIVE, THERE MIGHT BE AVAILABLE
IN WASHINGTON A TECHNICIAN WHO COULD VISIT ECUADOR TO CONDUCT
A BRIEF HELICOPTER FEASIBILITY STUDY AND DISCUSS POSSIBLE GOE
HELICOPTER ACQUISITION FOR NARCOTICS ENFORCEMENT PURPOSES WITH
APPRPRIATE MISSION AND GOE WBBFFICIALS.

7. PLEASE ADVISE.

HEMENWAY

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DRUG CONTROL, AGREEMENTS, POLICE FORCES, INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS)
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 MAY 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975QUITO03587
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750182-1067
From: QUITO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750523/aaaaauep.tel
Line Count: 124
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 STATE 99241, 75 QUITO 2811
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09 SEP 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <09 SEP 2003 by WorrelSW>; APPROVED <10 NOV 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SIGNING OF POLICE PROJECT AGREEMENT
TAGS: SNAR, BEXP, EC, US, DEA
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006